

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The residential and recycling pickup schedule for Dec. 21, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

Garrison unit coat drive ends today

Cold weather is here and there are many in need of a winter coat or jacket.

Help someone in need by donating a new or gently used coat to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison winter coat drive through Dec. 15.

Coats, winter clothing and food items can be dropped off at Army Community Service building 2754, the Post Chapel, the Commissary, Top of the Bay, and in buildings 4305 and 305.

Coats and clothing should be clean and food items non-perishable. Items will be donated to Harford County Social Services.

For more information, call Candace Hollingsworth, 410-278-3000 or Staff Sgt. William Benjamin, 410-278-3539.

Chapel hosts program at stable

There will be an Advent program at the Post Stable, South Post (Edgewood) 6:30 p.m., Dec. 17. Worshipers should meet at 6:30 p.m. at the South Post chapel for a procession to the stable singing Christmas carols. Once in the stable, there will be song, prayer and readings from the Old Testament on the waiting and watching for the Coming of the Lord. The program will conclude with the story of the Birth of Christ.

After the ceremony worshippers will return to the chapel for hot chocolate and refreshments. The stable is unheated so attendees should bundle up.

For more information, call 410-278-4333.

Santa visits early

Santa will arrive in APG early this year. Riding a fire truck from APG-North "Pole," Santa will visit the housing areas in Edgewood 6 p.m., Dec. 21 and 5:30, Dec. 23, in the Aberdeen area.

CID offers reward for information on computer theft

A \$500 reward is being offered by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation

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ACS holds Holiday Extravaganza

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

More than 500 youths and parents attended the Army Community Service Holiday Extravaganza held at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Recreation Center Dec. 7.

The event was combined with the annual tree lighting ceremony, which was held at the center and led by Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander.

A good time was had by all as children, big and little, played games, dined on holiday treats and took photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

ACS director Celestine Beckett hosted the event and the ACS staff assisted.

The 389th Army Band (AMC's Own) entertained the gathering with Christmas carols, and also helping out were Soldiers from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Officer Basic Course who served meals and the Noncommissioned Officer Academy who ran the games, did face painting and applied removable tattoos on little customers.

Along with the games that included 'Pin the Nose on Rudolph,' the 'Cake Walk,' 'Lollipop Pick' and 'Candy

Guess Game,' the children decorated holiday bags and received complimentary gifts.

The first stop for arriving guests was at the ACS information table. Marilyn Howard, Employment Assistance program manager; Marge Fissel, Army Emergency Relief; and ACS volunteer Gloria DeBerry, manned the table where guests dropped off their tickets or signed in and then received information about ACS classes, workshops, events and services.

Jareta Coyle and Cindy Scott of APG's Army Substance Abuse Program provided guests with samples of alcohol free beer and holiday punch and recipes to promote safe holiday hosting.

"All these products are available locally," Coyle said.

Parents seemed to enjoy themselves as much as their children.

Col. Timothy Madere, technical advisor to the 20th Support Command, who brought his three children, said he was impressed with the festivities.

"This is our first time here," Madere said. "We didn't realize it was this big."

"We came last year for the first time," added military

See HOLIDAY, page 2



Sgt. Jorge Hernandez, left, a volunteer from the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools' Noncommissioned Officer Academy Class 03-06, looks on as Kaitilyn Thacker, 3, plays 'Pin the Nose on Rudolph' during the Army Community Service Holiday Extravaganza at the Post Recreation Center Dec. 7.

Army family team building celebrates birthday

ACS

Tomorrow is the 11th birthday of the Army Family Team Building Program. Throughout the Army, there will be events commemorating AFTB's 11 years of contributions and support of the Army Family.

The APG AFTB family will celebrate the occasion with an information table and cake cutting at the APG Commissary 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Dec. 16. The cake cutting, by Tammy Wright and the program's volunteers, will take place at 11:30 a.m.

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic will also have an information table set up between 9 and 10:30 a.m.

For over a decade, Army Family Team Building has enriched Army families through its classes and volunteer opportunities. Army wide in fiscal year 2004, Army Family Team Building taught over 75,000 students. Since its beginning in 1994, AFTB has taught families and Soldiers about the resources and skills that will aid them in becoming self-sufficient. Over the last 11 years, AFTB has impacted thousands of family members, civilians and Soldiers.

Army Family Team Building is a volunteer led program that offers classes about military life, resources and leadership skills. AFTB classes are taught by volunteer instructors in three levels.

The classes are often taught as a whole level, but can also be taught individually for a

family readiness group, unit, or volunteer organization.

Classes are also offered online at www.myarmylifetoo.com. Online classes include Level One and Two, in English or Spanish, and Level Three in English.

Level One is considered to be "Army Life 101." It consists of 10 classes (11 classroom hours) that introduce the student to the basics of military life, including the chain of command, acronyms and expectations.

Level Two focuses on teaching life skills and is geared to students who are interested in gaining life skills and in becoming community leaders. It consists of 19 classes (20 classroom hours) including Stress Management and Group Dynamics.

Level Three is developed for those interested in developing leadership skills. It consists of 14 classes (18 classroom hours) including Leadership Skills and Group Conflict Management.

Volunteer instructors are trained with 20 hours of classroom instruction.

The classes are taught by "Master Trainers" who have attended the DA sponsored 40-hour training.

"The APG AFTB Program is actively seeking volunteers, instructors, and students for the program," said Celestine Beckett, Army Community Service officer. "The next class, an evening Level One, will be in February 2006."

DIO introduces 'Energy Matters'

DIO

The Directorate of Installation Operations is introducing a weekly column called 'Energy Matters' to help consumers save energy.

Each week a new list will be posted in the APG News emphasizing one area of concern.

This week's topic is 'Heating tips.'

Heating tips

www.socalgas.com

- Save up to 10 to 20 percent on heating costs by lowering the furnace thermostat by 3 to 5 degrees Fahrenheit (health

permitting).

- Save up to 25 percent of heating costs by installing or upgrading insulation in the attic and walls.

- Install a programmable thermostat to help automatically regulate home temperature for comfort control and energy savings.

- Caulk and weather-strip drafty windows and doors and save up to 5 percent on heating costs.

- Keep the heating system tuned-up to operate at maximum efficiency.

- Clean or replace furnace filters according to manufacturer's recommendations. A

simple filter clean/change can save up to 2 percent on heating costs.

- For safety and efficiency, keep all heating vents and furnace registers free of dirt, lint and obstructions.

- Have air ducts tested for leaks.

Ducts should be repaired with mastic-type sealant – not duct tape. It could mean a savings of 5 to 20 percent of heating costs.

- Open drapes and shades during the day, allowing the sun to warm the house. Close them at night to limit the amount of heat that escapes.

OCS board announced

U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen

The U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade, will convene a board for Soldiers applying for attendance at the U.S. Officer Candidate School Feb. 9 and 10.

Along with the U.S. Military Academy and the Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Officer Candidate School remains an important source of commissioned officers for the Army.

The Army has increased the number of Soldiers who may attend Officer Candidate School.

Candidates apply through local boards-Fort Meade for APG Soldiers-and those selected begin a rigorous, 14-week course of instruction at Fort Benning, Ga.

Aberdeen Proving Ground Soldiers who wish to become commissioned officers should prepare their applications early.

The key prerequisites for eligibility are:

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Have GT score of 110 or higher.
- Pass the Army Physical Fitness Test, minimum of 180.
- Meet the height and weight standards of AR 600-9.

- Pass the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), minimum of 850 or American College Test (ACT), minimum 19.

- Have at least 90 semester hours of college study.

- Achieve a score of 80 or higher on the English Comprehension Level Test (ECLT); if primary language is not English

- Must be between 18 and 30 years of age (can waive age up to 42).

- Have a complete physical exam six months prior to date of application.

Completed packets must be submitted to HHC-USAG (BLDG 305) no later than Jan. 10.

Each application consists of one packet containing all original documents, and three photocopies of the original packet.

Additional information may be found in Army Regulation 351-5 (Officer Candidate School) or the OSC Web page, <http://www.army-ocs.com/home/>.

For OCS application information, call Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen, 410-278-9820/3000 or e-mail deidre.taylor@usag.apg.army.mil.

Watch card

Report any suspicious activity immediately to the APG Police:
Aberdeen, 410-306-2222, 4-2222
Edgewood, 410-436-2222, 5-2222
Off post in Maryland, 1-800-492-TIPS (8477) or call 911.

Your call may save lives.

Note - Do not take this card with you when on travel outside of the United States.

WANTED: APG Tax Program volunteers

Sandi Williams
OSJA

The Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Client Services Division, will operate a Tax Assistance Program Jan. 23 through April 15 to prepare 2005 income tax returns for

Soldiers, retirees and eligible family members.

The Client Services Division seeks volunteers to provide administrative support and/or prepare income tax returns.

Volunteers who wish to prepare

tax returns will participate in a free training program which will result in a certification in tax law/preparation from the Internal Revenue Service.

Volunteer Return Preparation Program training will be held at the

Tax Center located in building 310, wing 9, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Jan. 9 through 20.

For more information, contact the Legal Assistance Office of the Client Services Division, 410-278-1583.

First Yards of the Year awards presented

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

On the heels of the revived Yards of the Month program, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison presented the first Yards of the Year awards to occupants of the installation's housing areas.

Annual winners were chosen from among those who had previously won Yards of the Month awards in six housing areas, said Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby, who revived the program and personally presented monthly awards to winners from April to October.

"Overall, the program went very well in its first year," Irby said. "People really started trying to compete and in some areas, like in Bayside Village, folks really went all out."

"A program like this makes the post look better," he added. "Lots of people put a lot of time and effort into it so it's our pleasure to recognize them."

Along with a sign in their yard designating it as a Yard of the Year, the awardees received



A cheerful holiday sign decorates the Bayside Village yard of Staff Sgt. Jared Mandeville of the 16th Ordnance Battalion. Mandeville was one of six recipients of the Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison's Yards of the Year award presented by Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby Dec. 5.

Garrison certificates of achievement and parking passes for reserved spaces at the Post Exchange and Commissary.

"Copies of these certificates will be sent to the service members' units so their commanders can also recognize them," Irby said.

Many of the awardees credited the beautification efforts of their spouses.

"All the credit goes to my bride, Sarah," said Col. John Ciesla, CHPPM chief of staff.

"I did the raking and put up the decorations and she did the rest," added Staff Sgt. Stephen Thomas of his Skippers Point home.

"Both of us get credit," said Staff Sgt. Danny

Hudgins, adding, "Though I handle the grass and mulching."

Cynthia Gandee, the wife of Staff Sgt. Christopher Gandee, said he takes care of the yard while I handle the decorations.

"It's pretty much a team effort," she said of their Patriot Village home.

Staff Sgt. Jared Mandeville of Bayside Village said that his wife Katrina leads their beautification efforts.

"She does the yard work and I help with the decorations," he said.

Rhonda Womack, the wife of Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Womack of the 20th Support

Command said, "It's always a team effort. I do the flowers and he does the yard."

Womack helped decorate Top of the Bay and she is in the midst of filling the interior of the couple's Plumb Point Loop home with festive holiday decorations.

"It's just a hobby for me," she said.

The Yard of the Month competition resumes in April 2006.

Yards of the Year winners

Scully Road, Col. John Ciesla, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine

Plumb Point Loop, Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin Womack, 20th Support Battalion (CBRNE)

Skippers Point, Staff Sgt. Stephen Thomas, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 143rd Ordnance Battalion

APG Trailer Park, Staff Sgt. Danny Hudgins, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion

Patriot Village, Staff Sgt. Christopher Gandee, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion

Bayside Village, Staff Sgt. Jared Mandeville, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Ordnance Battalion



A Christmas wreath and holiday poinsettias adorn the fence around the Scully Road home of Col. John Ciesla, chief of staff of the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine and a Yard of the Year award recipient.



Edgewood Model Railroad reopens for 50th anniversary

David Renard
Edgewood Model Railroad Club

The Edgewood Model Railroad Club will open its HO scale model train display to visitors this month after 5 years of rebuilding.

Open Houses are planned for Thursday evenings, 7 to 10 p.m., Dec. 15 and 29, and Sunday, 1 to 4 p.m., Dec. 18.

The club was first established in 1955 by military and civilian personnel located at Edgewood Arsenal. Over the years several thousand visitors attended the display sponsored by the Civilian



A 1966 era Chesapeake and Ohio passenger train pulls into Northwood station on the HO scale Edgewood Model Railroad Club. A model railroad is under construction on the second floor of this miniature station.

Welfare Fund Council.

The model railroad club members built an elaborately detailed, permanent train layout which they frequently operated for visitors, scout and school groups, other model railroad organizations and during an annual open house in December.

Originally located in a World War II barracks building, the club was offered new quarters in 2000 so the wooden structure could be torn down.

The model railroad likewise was showing its age, and the opportunity to rebuild with state-of-the-art technology was a welcome challenge.

The present location, building E-5173 on Webster Road, dates back to 1918, and was once used as a locomotive maintenance shop.

The HO scale railroad is named the Tidewater and Allegheny RR and depicts a railway running from an east coast city westward into the mountains for connection with mid-western railroads.

The club members use computer-generated train orders to simulate the movement of freight and passenger trains to various destinations along the railroad and to locations off-line represented by hidden staging tracks.

Visitors will see the trains moving through urban and rural terrain. Not all of the scenery is completed, but there is much to see in the model work completed so far.

The trains run on two levels to maximize the space available,



A diesel powered train climbs a steep grade as it curves around a limestone quarry, an important shipper on the Tidewater and Allegheny Railroad, the model railroad system operated by the Edgewood Model Railroad Club.

and a long, uphill climb, sometimes requiring helper locomotives, lifts the trains to the upper mountain level track.

The club members meet each Thursday evening to work on the model railroad system and operate the trains according to the orders for the evening.

Each engineer uses a hand-held digital command control throttle which runs his train via a radio signal to the receiver and decoder in the locomotive.

Visitors are welcome on Thursday evenings and during the December open houses.

APG News

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Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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Deadline for copy is Thursday at noon for the following Thursday's paper.

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Holiday

From front page

spouse Gwen James as she and her son Sammy, 14, enjoyed their dinner of Buffalo wings and chips.

"This is one of the largest events I've been to," James said. "I think it's so nice. ACS really goes all out, and people really enjoy themselves."

"This is our first time here and they really

liked it," said Torey Johnsonbaugh of her daughters Audrey, 2, Flora, 6, and Taylor, 10.

She said it was no surprise.

"ACS helped us out during Thanksgiving," she said. "They really look out for folks."

"It's great what they do for our kids," added Master Sgt. Elijah Mobley, 20th Support Command, whose son, Kavoss, 6, won one of two bicycles being raffled off.

"All you have to do is show up," Mobley said.



Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, cuts the Army Community Service holiday cake with Santa and Mrs. Claus during the Holiday Extravaganza at the Post Recreation Center Dec. 7.

Sports



The ‘Devil Dogs’ of the U.S. Marine Corps Detachment react as 1st Sgt. James Thompson parades the Commanders Cup trophy past them during the award ceremony at the Aberdeen Athletic Center Dec. 6.



USMC takes Commander’s Cup

The Commander's Cup is awarded each December to the unit that scores the most points in intramural sports during the year. Units accumulate points by participating in basketball, the bench press competition, the 3-on-3 basketball tournament, racquetball, volleyball, softball, golf, the deadlift competition, soccer and football. Points are awarded for unit participation and division and post championship wins.

Commander's Cup final point standings

USMC	165
Company B 16th	115
Company A 16th	75
Company E 16th	65
HHC 143rd	64
Company C 143rd	51
Company C 16th	45
HHC 16th	43
Company B 143rd	36
USAF	35
ATC	32
HHC 61st	25
CHPPM	25
MRICD	22
Nat. Guard	13
Company A 143rd	10
AML	6
HST	0
WOA	0
NCOA	-4
203rd MI	-5
22nd Chem	-8
KUSAHC	-10

(Editor's note: The APG Sports Office provides statistics. For more information, call Donna Coyne, 410-278-3929.)

USMC wins 2005 Commander’s Cup trophy

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools’ U.S. Marine Corps Detachment was awarded its third consecutive Commander’s Cup trophy during a ceremony at the Aberdeen Proving Ground Athletic Center Dec. 6.

The Marines are just the second unit to win three consecutive trophies since 1980. Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 61st Ordnance Brigade won it 1989 to 1991.

Company B, 16th Ordnance Battalion was the runner-up for the 2005 award and Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion took third place.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, and Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby presented the awards.

Earlene Allen, Morale, Welfare and Recreation senior programmer, hosted the ceremony assisted by Donna Coyne, MWR sports program manager.

After the singing of the national anthem by Ron Walls, an air traffic control specialist with Philips Army Airfield, Allen opened the program, noting the consistent participation of the installation’s units in MWR sports.

“All of you are winners tonight,” Allen said.

“Physical fitness is a vital component of being service men and women,” Wright said, “So it’s vital that we recognize that as well as everyone in MWR who puts these programs together.”

In addition to the Commander’s Cup, USMC won team championships in soccer, volleyball, the bench press, softball and golf, and the Sports Representative of the Year award, which went to Sgt. Aaron Enns.

Other championship awards went to HHC 143rd, Ordnance Battalion, basketball; Company A, 16th Ordnance Battalion, dead lift competition; the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, bowling; and the 22nd Chemical Battalion, flag football.

As their Marines roared their approval, Capt. Gerald Habiger, USMC curriculum development officer, and USMC 1st Sgt. James Thompson accepted the award

for the detachment.

Habiger said that many of the Marines who participated during the year are now deployed to Iraq.

“We are honored and very proud of those here and those who have been here,” Habiger

said.

“It’s overwhelming,” Thompson added. “These devil dogs come out and give one-hundred percent while attending school. We couldn’t ask for anything more of them.”

In a departure from tradition, Allen awarded commemorative plaques to the three coaches of two boxing competitions held earlier this year.

“This is not a part of the Commander’s Cup, but boxing

See CUP, page 9



ASAP reminds drivers not to drink and drive

ASAP

Drunk driving is a crime. More importantly, it is a crime with thousands of victims.

Nearly 17,000 Americans are killed and more than 700,000 are injured each year in alcohol-related traffic crashes. Drunk driving costs Americans more than \$50 billion each year in economic losses.

Drunk driving is no accident. An individual has choices — a choice to drink, a choice to drink to impairment, and a choice of whether or not to drive. Drunk driving fatalities, injuries, crashes and arrests can be prevented if people make responsible choices.

The APG Army Substance Abuse Program encourages everyone to make right choices and to encourage others to make right choices. The result — the nation's roadways become safe and sober, lives are saved and hopes and dreams fulfilled.

Make holiday celebration time one to live to remember.

For more information contact Jareta Coyle, alcohol and drug control officer, 410-278-3784 or visit the APG ASAP Web site, <http://www.apg.army.mil/apghome/sites/services/asap/>.

Alcohol and driving

The three most critical skills necessary for a good, safe driver are judgment, vision and reaction.

Alcohol is a depressant, which impairs a driver's judgment, vision and reaction.

An individual's critical driving skills can become impaired at blood alcohol levels well below the legal limit.

Alcohol may have a different effect each time a driver drinks depending on what (if anything) the individual has eaten, mood, metabolism, the level of fatigue and other factors.

A 12-ounce can of beer, a 5-ounce glass of wine and a 1 1/2-ounce shot of liquor all have about the same amount of alcohol.

The body eliminates alcohol at a rate of about one drink per hour.

Alcohol and driving can be a deadly mix—a driver might kill or injure someone in a crash; a driver might be arrested for and convicted of drunk driving, which can result in court costs, legal fees, higher automobile insurance rates, fines, loss of license and even imprisonment.

Drunk driving facts

- On an average day, 46 people die in alcohol related traffic crashes, accounting for

nearly 40 percent of traffic deaths.

- Three out of 10 Americans face the possibility of being directly involved in an alcohol related traffic crash during their lifetimes.

- Traffic crashes are the greatest single cause of death for every age group between 6 and 33 years of age.

- Nearly 80 percent of all occupants killed in alcohol-related traffic crashes were not wearing safety belts.

- Each year, police arrest over 1.5 million drivers for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Intervening: Get the keys

If it is a close friend, try and use a soft, calm approach at first. Suggest to them that they've had too much to drink and it would be better if someone else drove or if they took a cab.

Be calm. Joke about it. Make light of it. Try to make it sound like a favor.

If it is somebody you don't know well, speak to their friends and have them make an attempt to persuade them to hand over the keys. Usually they will listen.

If it's a good friend, spouse, or significant other, tell them that if they insist on driving, they are driving alone.

Suggest calling someone else for a ride, taking a cab or walking.

Locate their keys while they are preoccupied and take them away. Most likely, they will think they've lost them and will be forced to find another mode of transportation.

If possible, avoid embarrassing the person or being confrontational, particularly when dealing with men. This makes them appear vulnerable to alcohol and its effects.

Friends don't let friends drive drunk.



Morale, Welfare & Recreation



Equipment Resource Center manager Adam Barnard adds two pair of downhill skis to the plentiful supply of winter sporting equipment available for rental in the Outdoor Recreation facility.

Outdoor Recreation wins Army award

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The Aberdeen Proving Ground Outdoor Recreation Program is the winner of the Army’s 2005 “Best Outdoor Recreation Program” award for medium-sized installations.

The award was announced Oct. 17 in San Antonio, Texas.

Col. John T. Wright, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander presented the award to the Outdoor Recreation staff Dec. 12.

Wayne Doyel, Outdoor Recreation program manager, said the award was the direct result of the marinas, stables and skeet activities; the MWR programmers who offered fun trips; life skill classes and adventure outings; and employees who operate the pools, amusement park and the Equipment Resource Center.

“They all worked hard and put in many hours to bring APG a program for the installation to enjoy because they all care,” Doyel said. “This is a tribute to our great staff and volunteers.”

SCHOOL LIAISON

College Resource

www.EdRef.com presents information on 7,500 U.S. colleges and universities, including minority, athletic and religious search options.

Harford County KIDS Magazine

The APG School Liaison Office has a limited supply of the 2005-2006 Family Resource Guide, Harford County KIDS

Magazine. To receive this valuable resource that features county-wide information on baby and childcare, education and schools, summer camps, family fun, birthday parties, and quick references and ads, pick up a copy at building 2752, room 111 or e-mail ivan.mehosky@apg.army.mil and include name and building number and a copy will be mailed.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday and closed on Friday. For more information, call 410-278-3417.

The APGMWR Library has new films, which were originally broadcast by the Public Broadcasting System available on DVD.

Jazz, a Film by Ken Burns
Peter & Paul and the Christian Revolution
Holy Warriors: Richard the Lionheart and Saladin
Lewis and Clark: the Journey of the

Corps of Discovery
The Civil War, a film by Ken Burns
Kingdom of David: the Saga of the Israelites
Egypt’s Golden Empire

The library’s Web site, www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html, provides access to the library’s online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library’s new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Happy Holidays

from the Army Community Service staff

AA
Main Office
Building 2754
Monday - Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
410-278-7572/7474

EA
Limited Service
Main Office
Building E-4630
Monday - Thursday
8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Army Family Team Building Birthday
with cake cutting at the Commissary
Dec 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Volunteer Gift Wrappers wanted
410-278-2464
Wrapping available until Dec 24

Army Volunteer Corps has openings
for you and your needs

The Self-Help Job Information Center
is available from Monday through Friday
8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Call ACS for more information.
410-278-2464

Christmas holiday schedule

ACTIVITY	SUN 18-Dec	MON 19-Dec	TUE 20-Dec	WED 21-Dec	THU 22-Dec	FRI 23-Dec	SAT 24-Dec
ARTS & CRAFTS AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
ARTS & CRAFTS EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ATHLETIC CENTER	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	5 a.m.-6 p.m.	5 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
AUTO CRAFTS CENTER	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED
BOWLING CENTER	1-6 p.m.	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	11 a.m.-2 p.m.	11 a.m.-10 p.m.	11 a.m.-10 p.m.	5 - 10 p.m.	1-6 p.m.
ODR RENTAL CENTER	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
FITNESS CENTER AA	CLOSED	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
HOYLE GYM/FITNESS CTR	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.
MWR REGISTRATION	CLOSED	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
LIBRARY	1 - 5 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER AA	CLOSED	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RUGGLES GOLF COURSE	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-3 p.m.
EXTON GOLF COURSE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
TOP OF THE BAY	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

ACTIVITY	MON 26-Dec	TUE 27-Dec	WED 28-Dec	THU 29-Dec	FRI 30-Dec	SAT 31-Dec	SUN 1-Jan
ARTS & CRAFTS AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ARTS & CRAFTS EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
ATHLETIC CENTER	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	5 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
AUTO CRAFTS CENTER	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	11 a.m.-7:30 p.m.	9 a.m.-5 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
BOWLING CENTER	CLOSED	CLOSED	11 a.m.-8 p.m.	11 a.m.-8 p.m.	5 - 10 p.m.	10 p.m.-1 a.m.*	CLOSED
ODR RENTAL CENTER	CLOSED	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-5 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
FITNESS CENTER AA	CLOSED	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	5:30 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED	CLOSED
HOYLE GYM/FITNESS CTR	CLOSED	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	6 a.m.-6 p.m.	10 a.m.-6 p.m.	CLOSED
MWR REGISTRATION	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
LIBRARY	CLOSED	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	11:30a.m.-6:30 p.m.	CLOSED	1 - 5 p.m.	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER AA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RECREATION CENTER EA	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
SNACK BAR	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
RUGGLES GOLF COURSE	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-5 p.m.	7 a.m.-3 p.m.	CLOSED
EXTON GOLF COURSE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
TOP OF THE BAY	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

* Bowling Center New Year’s Eve Party. (Only open if there is enough participation for the party.)



As he has done since 1999, retired Lt. Col. Raymond J. Astor places a nativity scene near the installation's holiday tree just a couple of hours before the annual tree lighting ceremony Dec. 7.

Some veterans never stop serving

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Every year a modest nativity scene mysteriously appears at the base of the post Christmas tree then just as mysteriously disappears at the season's end. Not many realize that its placement is part of an annual ritual for a retired Army ordnance officer and Aberdeen Proving Ground civilian who has been serving his country and his community for more than 50 years. Raymond J. Astor retired from the Army as a lieutenant colonel after a 21-year career then served 25 years as a Department of the Army civilian,

ending his career with the U.S. Army Materiel Systems Analysis Activity in 1993. Since then the Havre de Grace resident has become one of the community's most visible volunteers. Astor leads efforts to "keep Christ in Christmas" through the Susquehanna Ministerium, a coalition of Havre de Grace churches which sponsors the annual Holiday Open House of Historical Churches and the Nativity Scene Challenge for homes and businesses in Havre de Grace. The rest of the year, Astor stays busy as a member of local

Korean War Veterans and Catholic War Veterans chapters and at the Perry Point Veterans Administration Medical Center in Perryville where he serves as a Eucharistic minister to hospitalized veterans and leads the Scripture Study program that airs weekly on Comcast Channel 21. On Sundays, Astor participates in services, scripture readings and communion rites at the Father Martin's Ashley, a residential drug and alcohol treatment center in Havre de Grace. Astor said he has been providing the APG nativity scene since 1999. "I asked the chaplain if one

could be put there for the holidays," Astor said. "He said, 'We can't do it but you as a private citizen can,' so I've been doing it ever since." He said he plans to continue his busy schedule, "As long as the good Lord lets me." "It makes me feel good to see folks participating in the Nativity Scene Challenge and it's my hope to get the state of Maryland to sponsor one," Astor said. "And as for the open house, I think it encourages those who may be new to the community to come in, look around, feel the warmth and perhaps come back and even join the church."

At age 83, Astor said he still enjoys and appreciates spending time with service members and veterans, which is one of the reasons he began his nativity 'pilgrimage.' "I want to spread the word and do my part," he said. "I've had so many blessings in my life and I want to reciprocate. "Hopefully, it helps them to remember the reason for the season." Astor and his wife Alma celebrated their 60th anniversary in October. They have two grown children, Ray Jr. and Regina Zierdt.



Channel 21 features Pentagon Channel programming

The Pentagon Channel will feature the following programs on Channel 21. These programs are subject to change each week and will be updated accordingly.

- Monday**
Focus on the Force, 5:30 a.m.
American Veteran, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 11 a.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 1 p.m.
State Department Briefing, 3 p.m.
Around the Services, 5:30 p.m.
- Tuesday**
Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Stallion Report, 10:30 a.m.
Focus on the Force, 1 p.m.
State Department Briefing, 3 p.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 4 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 7 p.m.
Navy/Marine Corps News, 9 p.m.
- Wednesday**
Around the Services, 8 a.m.
Army Newswatch, 9:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
American Veteran, 1 p.m.
Focus on the Force, 2 p.m.
State Department Briefing, 3 p.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 4 p.m.
Stallion Report, 5 p.m.
Around the Services, 8 p.m.
- Thursday**
Around the Services, 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 9 a.m. and 9 p.m.
Navy/Marine Corps News, 11 a.m.
Focus on the Force, 1 p.m.
State Department Briefing, 3 p.m.
American Veteran, 5 p.m.
- Friday**
Around the Services, 5:30 a.m. and 8 p.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 9 a.m.
Recon, 12:30 p.m.
State Department Briefing, 3 p.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 4 p.m.
- Saturday**
Around the Services, 5:30 a.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 7:30 a.m. and 9:30 p.m.
Engineer Update, 1:30 p.m.
Opportunity Showcase, 3 p.m.
Army Newswatch, 5:30 p.m.

- Battleground, 7 p.m.
Recon, 8 p.m.
- Sunday**
Army Newswatch, 5:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
FJ Iraq/AF Prime Time, 10:30 a.m.
Stallion Report, 11 a.m.
American Veteran, 1 p.m.
Navy/Marine Corp News, 3 p.m.
Around the Service, 7:30 p.m.
Battleground, 9:30 p.m.
- Army Newswatch – Bi-weekly report on the men and women of the Army
Around the Services – From the Pentagon Channel NewsCenter, daily half-hour program featuring military news from top defense officials and the military services from around the world
RECON – A monthly information television program providing an in-depth look at a variety of topics, highlighting the accomplishments of U.S. Military men and women.
Your Corps – Monthly view of the men and women of the Marine Corps
Freedom Journal Iraq – A daily news program produced by American Forces Network Iraq. The program focuses on military missions, operations and U.S. military forces in Iraq
Navy Marine Corp News – A weekly look at the men and women of today's sea service.
Opportunity Showcase - A monthly program dealing with a variety of subjects that benefit small business owners, transitioning military members and other subjects of opportunity-produced by the United States Air Force
The American Veteran - A half-hour video news magazine designed to inform veterans, their families and their communities about the services and benefits they have earned through their service to America and to recognize and honor that service
Battleground - Every weekend, this series features historic films from WWII, Korean War, and the Vietnam War. A Pentagon Channel Original Series
Focus on the Force – A weekly program highlighting missions, operations and people of the U.S. military.

Installation exceeds CFC goal

CFC Staff
The Aberdeen Proving Ground community came together again this year to make the 2005 Combined Federal Campaign a success. Donations in excess of \$362,000 put the installation over its goal of \$350,000. "On behalf of the CFC staff, our sincere thanks go out to every contributor who helped make this year's campaign a success," said Lisa Mack, CFC chairperson. "Your heartfelt generosity will provide aid to those less fortunate not only in our community, but throughout the world." Among contributors there were 21 Gold Plus Leadership awardees and they each received a large Scenes of Maryland print for their \$2,000 or more donation. The 79 Gold Leadership awardees

received a small Scenes of Maryland print for their \$1,000 to \$1,999 donation. The 128 Silver awardees received a water bottle for their \$500 to \$999 donation; and the 496 Bronze awardees received a zipper tote bag for their \$100 to \$499 donation. The campaign ended Dec.14, but donations can still be mailed to Combined Federal Campaign, Attn: Lindsay Miller, 100 S. Charles Street, 5th Floor, P.O. Box 1576, Baltimore, MD 21205-1576. Congratulations to the winners of the final raffle of the 2005 campaign season. The large 16 by 20 inch print went to Capt. Todd Watkins of the 9th Army Medical Laboratory and the smaller 8 inch x 11 inch print went to Deserie Dulworth of the U.S. Army Developmental Test Command.

APG closing announcements

If the installation is closed, is experiencing a delay in opening or if liberal leave is in effect due to weather or other emergency situations, check for postings on the local television and radio stations, WAPG-TV Channel 21 (on Aberdeen Proving Ground), or call 410-278-SNOW (7669). A recorded telephone message will contain updated information and should begin at

about 5 a.m. For general information, call the APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147. Announcements about federal offices in the greater Baltimore metropolitan area do not apply to APG; listen for those that name APG specifically. For general information, call the APG Public Affairs Office, 410-278-1147.

Cup

From page 3

was far and above the year's most successful program, and we want to recognize their efforts," Allen said. Boxing awards went to Staff Sgt. Adoon Jordan of the 143rd Ordnance Battalion and to Staff Sgt. Raymond McFarland and his assistant, Sgt. 1st Class Johnny Dinanno of the 16th Ordnance Battalion.

Allen also thanked the event sponsor, APG Federal Credit Union, whose representative, Claudia Holman, business development director, gave complimentary gifts to the service members in attendance. "We try to support MWR programs all year," Holman said. "It's a lot of fun for us and the troops appreciate it so much."

Community Notes

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 17
BASKET BINGO**

Basket Bingo to benefit the Water Witch Fire Company will be held at VFW Post 8185, Route 222, Port Deposit. Doors open at 6 p.m., Bingo starts at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$10 per person for all paper cards.

For more information or to purchase tickets, call Anne Gibson, 410-378-3338.

NATIVITY CONTEST

The Susquehanna Ministerium's annual Nativity Scene

contest period runs through Jan. 8. Awards will be presented to the home and business with the best outdoor scene. Judging will take place Dec. 27 to Jan. 8.

To enter, call 410-939-5233.

MILK, COOKIES, PHOTOS WITH MRS. CLAUS

Join Mrs. Claus for milk and cookies, noon to 4 p.m., at the Prime Outlets Center, located on 68 Heather Lane, Suite 46, Perryville, at the Holiday Headquarters next to Jos. A. Bank. She will be telling stories about life at the North Pole.

Photos cost \$5 for a donation to benefit the Perryville Lions Club community programs.

LUNCH WITH SANTA

Eat lunch with Santa, noon to 2 p.m., at the Pilottown Rod and Gun Club, located on Belle Manor Road, Conowingo. Santa will provide goodies for all children. Cost of the lunch is \$3 per person and includes a hot dog with roll, chips, drink and cookies. For more information, call Pat Job, 410-658-5828 or 420-378-0096, or the Gun Club, 410-378-2221.

YOUTH & YOUNG

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and

OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should call Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Michele Amrhein
Andrew Buchanan
Leroy Carter
Barbara Cascio
Barbara Crossley
Lola Daniels
Shelia Davison (benign paroxysmal positional vertigo)
Geraldine Eaton
Gregory Fox
Renee Gaffney
Susan Gorhan

Shirley Gross
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Lydia Langley
Robyn Lee
Michael Lewis
Wayne Kaiser
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Priscilla Kelly
William B. McLean (kidney failure)
Sandra Miller

Mary Pettitway
Tess Ramos (total hip replacement)
Barbara Seker
Cynthia Shelton
Linda Shoaf
Tomika Silver
Alison Tichenor
Gary Tudor (heart valve replacement)
Jerry Williams
Billie Wooten
Gerard Yursis

Post Shorts

Division, which is investigating the theft of government property.

On Oct. 24, person(s) entered the Intelligence Security Command server room, building 2444, Fort Belvoir, Va., and stole one Dell laptop computer, model Precision M60, serial numbers: 9MP3L31.

Anyone with information pertaining to the whereabouts of the property or the individual(s) responsible for the theft, should contact the Fort Belvoir CID Office, 703-806-3239/0497/3795 or the Military Police Desk, 703-806-3104.

ACS announces 'Holiday Sponsor Program'

With the holiday season fast approaching and the nation still fighting the War on Terrorism, the APG community is constantly reminded of the great sacrifices of the men and women in the U.S. armed forces. During these stressful times, some military families are experiencing financial difficulties and require additional assistance. Army Community Service works closely with these families providing supportive services throughout the year.

To make this holiday season a little bit brighter for some of these families, ACS is collecting donations from individuals or groups desiring to sponsor a military family.

For more information, call Arcelio V. Alleyne, ACS Financial Readiness program manager, 410-278-2450/7572, fax, 410-306-2293 or e-mail, arcelio.alleyne@usag.apg.army.mil.

Volunteers needed on Minority College Team

To meet the minimum requirements outlined by DA, the Aberdeen Proving Ground Minority College Team needs volunteers.

The team meets quarterly to develop and administer aggressive outreach strategies that promote beneficial collaborative partnerships and relationships with minority serving institutions.

Anyone interested in joining the team should e-mail APG-MCRT@apg.army.mil.

Marine Corps Fund offers scholarships

The Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is

looking for a few good students to apply for scholarships for the 2006-2007 academic year. The scholarships range from \$500 to \$10,000.

Anyone interested can download applications from the MCSF Web site, <http://www.mcsf.org>, on Jan. 1.

To qualify for a scholarship, an applicant must be the child of a Marine on active or reserve duty, or the child of a retired or deceased Marine.

The children of Navy corpsmen who are serving or have served with the Marines are also eligible for scholarships from MCSF.

For more information on the eligibility requirements or how to make a donation to MCSF, visit <http://www.mcsf.org> or call 1-800-292-7777.

Pet vaccination and microchip clinic

Effective Jan. 1, all privately owned dogs and cats residing on the installation must be micro-chipped.

The clinic is open to all active duty, activated reserve and retiree military personnel who are eligible for services at the VTF (proper ID is required). No appointment is necessary.

Services include feline canine distemper shots, \$14; feline and canine rabies, \$8; bordetella/kennel cough, \$13; FIV/FeLV test, \$22.50; FeLV vaccination, \$13; heartworm/Lyme disease test, \$18; microchip, \$20. The user fee for all transactions is \$2.

The clinic is accepting donations of dry dog and cat food, canned cat food and litter.

For more information, call Tamra Warrington or Dodie McMillan at 410-278-3911.

Vacancy at ChalleNGe Academy

Anyone looking for a challenging career working with teens between the ages of 16 and 18 need look no further. The National Guard Freestate ChalleNGe Academy based at Aberdeen Proving Ground is currently accepting applications for Youth Supervisor I, a full-time position.

Starting salary is \$11.73 per hour. The position is currently contractual, but can lead to a permanent state position.

If interested call Cassie at 410-306-1839 or come to building 5469 to pick up an application.

USAWOA meetings

The Aberdeen-Edgewood Chapter of the U.S. Army

Warrant Officers Association meets on the third Thursday of the month at noon in the Warrant Officer Hut located on School Street.

For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer 4 Pete Hill, 410-278-4195.

MCSC offers pies, membership

The Military and Civilian Spouse's Club has apple pies for \$7 in time for the holidays and gift-giving. Anyone interested can call Gloria DeBerry, 410-273-1926.

The club is accepting half year memberships at a cost of \$10. Anyone interested should call Sandy Matthews, 410-272-9130.

Re-Nu-It centers change hours

The Aberdeen Re-Nu-It Center hours are 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday and 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday.

The Edgewood Re-Nu-It Center hours will remain the same, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday.

Updating DEERS info

Failure to update information in DEERS may result in future denial of office visits, specialty care, laboratory testing and pharmacy services including medication refills as well as denial of pending claims. To update DEERS records, contact the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office, 1-800-538-9552. To update an address only in DEERS, visit www.dmdc.osd.mil/appj/addresses/index.jsp.

Army opens Web site for public

The new Army Outreach Web site, <http://www.army.mil/outreach>, was launched for the public last week. The Web site will serve as a valuable resource for public affairs officers around the world to help better connect the Army with American citizens.

Features include a comprehensive, searchable, interactive calendar of outreach events; easy access to installation Websites that have links posted on the calendar; snapshots of the Army's many ongoing Outreach programs; a photo gallery with images that can be used to promote local events; answers to questions ranging from Army benefits to requesting Army assets, to obtaining lost medals or mili-

ADULT JOY NIGHT

The St. James AME Church, 617 Green Street, Havre de Grace, is sponsoring a Joy Night Service at 7 p.m. for fellowship and a praise party with youth and young adults in the community. For more information, call 410-939-2267.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

Edgewood Baptist Church and the APG Post Chapel Choirs will hold a musical at 7 p.m. and again Dec. 18 at 10:45 a.m. Nursery services will be provided. Call 410-676-5838.

SUNDAY

**DECEMBER 18
SOUNDS OF THE SEASON**

Grove Presbyterian Church, located on 50 E. Bel Air Avenue (corner of Old Post Road and E. Bel Air Avenue), Aberdeen, invites all to attend Sounds of the Season, 5 p.m.

Music will include Christmas music for harpsichord and recorder and A Joyful Noise in the Grove Bell Choir, and the Chancel Choir will present the cantata: 'Emmanuel – Celebrating Heaven's Child.'

A light reception will follow.

For more information, call 410-272-0896.

MOVIES

ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3.50, CHILDREN \$1.75
Building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard

To verify listing, call 410-272-9008, or visit www.aafes.com and click on "Movie Listing"

PRIME

Friday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

Starring: Uma Thurman, Meryl Streep, Bryan Greenberg, John Abrahams

Rafi (Thurman), a 37-year-old divorced New Yorker, meets and quickly falls for Dave (Greenberg), a 23-year-old painter from Brooklyn. Rafi's therapist, Lisa (Streep), thinks the new relationship is a great idea, even if it's not meant to last. But when Lisa discovers that her son is actually the guy dating Rafi, she finds it increasingly difficult to serve as her therapist. (Rated PG-13)

DREAMER: INSPIRED BY A TRUE STORY (FREE ADMISSION)

Saturday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.

Starring: Kurt Russell, Dakota Fanning, Kris Kristofferson, Elisabeth Shue

Ben Crane (Russell) was once a great horseman, but now he bides his time training the horses of rich businessmen. Sonya was a great horse whose

career was suddenly cut short by a broken leg. Considered as good as dead by her owner, who also happens to be Ben's boss, Sonya is given to Ben as severance pay. Ben's young daughter, Cale (Fanning), convinces him to pursue a seemingly impossible goal: winning the Breeders' Cup Classic. (Rated PG)

THE WEATHER MAN

Saturday, Dec. 17, 9 p.m.

Starring: Nicolas Cage, Michael Caine, Hope Davis

Dave Spritz (Cage) is a local weatherman in his home town of Chicago. His career is going well, while his relationship with his perfectionist writer father, his neurotic ex-wife, and his now-separated children is spiraling downward. Despite being both loathed and loved by the local masses, Dave is a guy who doesn't seem to have it all together, and he begins to feel it. An attractive job offer presents Dave with a major question: to pursue his career in New York City, or to remain at home with his family. (Rated R)

will be notified in May.

Colorado ski resort hosts Armed Forces Week

"They gave their life fighting for our country...now it is our turn to take care of their children!"

Support the children of fallen heroes and enjoy a fun-filled ski week in Vail, Colorado.

The [VailArmedForces.com](http://www.VailArmedForces.com) and Vail Chamber and Business Association will sponsor Armed Forces Week, Jan. 29 through Feb. 3, 2006, in Vail. All members, past or present of all military service branches, U.S. Public Health Services, defense contractors, firefighters, law enforcement, civilians, family and friends are invited to recognize America's fallen heroes who have made the ultimate sacrifice defending our country.

This event will raise money for the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation and Naval Special Warfare Foundation supporting the surviving families and children.

There is a 25 percent discount on lodging/lift ticket packages with prices starting from under \$400 to \$1100 per person for five days lodging and four days skiing; a 10 percent discount of all Frontier Airlines roundtrip published fares; and a 25 percent on ski/snowboard rental equipment. Door prizes, raffles and various events are planned for the week.

For more information or to make reservations online, visit <http://www.vailarmedforces.com/reservations.cfm>.

For two or three night stays, call 1-800-730-4827 for availability and mention Vail Armed Forces Week.

Women service members sought for registry

The Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc. needs you. The memorial, at the Ceremonial Gateway to Arlington National Cemetery, is the nation's only major national memorial honoring all women who have defended America from the Revolutionary War to the present.

The memorial's computerized Register guarantees each registered woman's individual story a permanent place in America's history - and every service woman's story is

important.

The foundation is seeking names, addresses, photos and memorable experiences of women who have served to be included in the Memorial's Register. Family members, friends and organizations can register deceased service women from any era or those civilian women who served with other civilian organizations. To register or for more information, visit the Memorial's Web site, <http://www.womensmemorial.org> or call 703-533-1155 or 800-222-2294.

Applying for Mansfield Fellowship in Japan

Federal employees with a strong career interest in issues of importance to the United States-Japan relationship now have the opportunity to apply for a Mike Mansfield Fellowship.

During the two-year program, Fellows spend a year working full-time in Japanese government offices, preceded by a year of full-time rigorous language and area studies training in the United States. After completing the program, Fellows return to their U.S. agencies with proficiency in Japanese and practical, first-hand experience with Japan and its government that enables them to contribute to their agencies' Japan-related work.

For more information, visit www.mansfieldfdn.org or contact Niharika Joe, joen@mansfieldfdn.org, 202-347-1994 or toll-free 800-803-1106.

Application deadline is April 3, 2006.

The Mansfield Fellowship Program is administered by The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation with the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, as grantor.

Submit Scholarships for Military Children applications

It's time for military families to start thinking about what they could do with a \$1,500 scholarship. Information and applications for the 2006 Scholarships for Military Children program will be available in November at commissaries worldwide as well as online at the <http://www.militaryscholar.org> Web site or DeCA's site at <http://www.commissaries.com>.



Prevent Blindness America urges caution when buying holiday toys and gifts

Prevent Blindness America

It's that time of year again when the holiday toy shopping rush gets into full swing. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles will try to make the season special by giving the perfect gift. But, not every toy on the child's wish list may be the safest.

In fact, in 2004 the Consumer Product Safety Commission states that there were 210,300 toy-related injuries treated in U.S. emergency rooms, and close to 6,000 of those were injuries to the eyes of children under the age of 15. Contusions and abrasions accounted for 64 percent of those injuries, with the remainder being chemical burns, foreign bodies, lacerations,

punctures, hemorrhages, dermatitis/conjunctivitis and other diagnoses.

Toy injuries can happen in a variety of ways, including poor construction, age-inappropriate toys and incorrect usage. Many times, injuries occur by simply tripping over toys or by younger siblings playing with toys that are not intended for them when their parents aren't looking. There were more injuries from the misuse of pens, pencils and other art supplies than any other category. That is why it is so important to closely monitor children during all of their activities.

"During the busy holiday season it's important to take the time to make sure the gift you're giving is the best choice," said Daniel D. Garrett, senior vice president of PBA. "The emergency room is no place to spend the holidays."

Prevent Blindness America has declared December as Safe Toys and Gifts Month and is urging all toy buyers to read the labels and pay attention to what their children are playing with.

The group offers free fact sheets and safety tips on toy safety as well as a new DVD for children entitled "Play it Safe with Your Eyes!" The DVD features Iris and Ira, two puppet characters that make learning about the importance of eye safety easy and fun for young viewers. It is available in English and Spanish languages.

For more information on safe toys and gifts or to order the DVD, call 1-800-331-2020.

Minimizing snow shoveling, snow blowing injuries

DSHE

Cleaning up mounds of snow can cause more pain than just a headache. While this seasonal activity may seem mundane, it can also be dangerous.

The American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons advises that snow shoveling and snow blowing can pose threats to the back, shoulders and wrists, if proper precautions are not taken.

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, more than 44,000 injuries related to the use of snow shovels and snow blowers were treated at hospital emergency rooms, doctor's offices and clinics in 2004. Injuries range from lacerations and bone fractures to finger amputations. The potential for an orthopaedic injury is high, whether one shovels or snow blows routinely, or only once or twice a year.

"The improper use of snow shoveling and snow blowing tools, combined with overextension and overexertion of muscles, increases a person's susceptibility to musculoskeletal injuries," said Richard F. Kyle, MD, AAOS' first vice president. "To minimize these injuries, use the proper equipment -- which is appropriate for one's size -- and lift snow correctly by using the legs to distribute weight evenly and switching sides frequently."

The American Academy of

Orthopaedic Surgeons offers the following tips for safe snow clearing:

Check with a doctor. Because this activity places high stress on the heart, speak with a physician before shoveling or snow blowing. If a medical condition exists or the person does not exercise regularly, consider hiring someone to remove the snow.

Dress appropriately. Light, layered, water-repellent clothing provides both ventilation and insulation. It is also important to wear the appropriate head coverings, as well as mittens or gloves and thick, warm socks.

Pace yourself. Snow shoveling and blowing are aerobic activities, comparable to weightlifting. Take frequent breaks and replenish fluids to prevent dehydration. If chest pain, shortness of breath or other signs of a heart attack exist, seek emergency care.

Warm-up muscles. Shoveling can be a vigorous activity. Before beginning this physical workout, warm-up muscles for 10 minutes with light exercise.

Never stick hands in the snow blower. If snow becomes too impacted, stop the engine and wait more than five seconds. Use a solid object to clear wet snow or debris from the chute. Beware of the recoil of the motor and blades after the machine has been turned off.

Clear snow early and often. Begin when a light covering of snow is on the ground to avoid shoveling packed, heavy snow.

Use a shovel that is comfortable for shoveler's height and strength. Do not use a shovel that is too heavy or too long. Space the hands on the tool grip to increase leverage.

Push the snow instead of lifting it, but if shoveler must lift, do it properly. Squat with the legs apart, knees bent and back straight. Lift with the legs, without bending at the waist. Scoop small amounts of snow into the shovel and walk to the



http://www.wvann.net/wv_gabbers

dump site. Holding a shovelful of snow with the arms outstretched puts too much weight on the spine. Never remove deep snow all at once; do it piecemeal.

Do not throw the snow over the shoulder or to the side. This requires a twisting motion that stresses the back.

Do not wear anything that can block vision. Watch for ice patches and uneven surfaces. Avoid falls by wearing shoes or boots that have slip-resistant soles.

Do not leave the snow blower unattended when it is running. Shut off the engine if walking away from the machine. Watch the snow blower cord. If operating an electric snow blower, be aware of where the power cord is at all times.

Add fuel before starting the snow blower. Never add fuel when the engine is running or hot. Do not operate the machine in an enclosed area.

Read the instruction manual. Prior to using a snow blower, read the instruction manual for specific safety hazards, unfamiliar features and whenever attempting to repair or maintain the snow blower.



<http://www.jamesburg.net/images>

KUSAHC to begin AHLTA training soon

KUSAHC

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic health care providers are moving one step closer to using the next generation of electronic medical record systems to document outpatient treatment -- The Armed Forces Health Longitudinal Technology Application.

AHLTA is a state-of-the-art clinic information system that generates and

maintains a comprehensive, lifelong, computer-based patient record for each military health system beneficiary.

As KUSAHC converts its data to electronic format, it will upload the information to the clinical data repository, making the information accessible anywhere in the world.

Old information will remain in the patient's medical record but the goal is to

attain computerized paperless medical records.

"As we train our staff on the nuances of this new system, beneficiaries may find fewer but lengthier appointments," said Lt. Col. William Rice, commander, KUSAHC. "KUSAHC asks your patience while we train and implement this new program which will improve us as a Military Treatment Facility."

DoD enacts Traumatic Injury Protection Life Insurance

Army News Service

The Department of Defense has enacted a traumatic injury protection insurance under the Service members' Group Life Insurance, or SGLI program. On Dec. 1, all service members eligible for SGLI became insured for traumatic injury protection of up to \$100,000 unless they declined SGLI coverage.

The program, which will be known as TSGLI, is designed to provide financial assistance to service members during their recovery period from a serious traumatic injury. A flat monthly premium of \$1.00 will be added to the monthly SGLI deduction, regardless of the amount of SGLI coverage that the member has elected, officials said, beginning Dec. 1.

A retroactive provision of the law provides that any service member, who suffered a qualifying loss between Oct. 7, 2001, and Dec. 1, 2005, will receive a benefit under the TSGLI program, if the loss was a direct result of injuries incurred in Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The Army has already received the first 144 claims for the

Traumatic Service members Group Life Insurance for Soldiers who incurred a traumatic injury in support of OIF and OEF.

"Our nation's commitment to our Soldiers is evidenced by this program," said Col. Mary Carstensen, director of U.S. Army Wounded Warrior Program and TSGLI.

"TSGLI is another benefit which assists our fallen warriors and their families so they can focus on recovery, further exemplifying the Warrior Ethos, 'Never leave a fallen comrade,'" Carstensen said.

Administered by the Army Wounded Warrior Program, or AW2, on behalf of the Army, the mission of TSGLI is to ensure eligible Soldiers receive the monetary payments they are entitled to while providing them with the necessary information and assistance to complete and submit their TSGLI claims, officials said.

If a Soldier is unable to complete a claim due to incapacitation or death, family members with an appropriate power of attorney or letter of guardianship may apply for TSGLI benefits on behalf of a Soldier, officials said.

Family members of a deceased Soldier who survived for seven days after incurring a traumatic injury and qualifying loss may also apply for TSGLI benefits.

TSGLI covers a range of traumatic injuries, including, but not limited to:

- Total and permanent loss of sight in one or both eyes;
- Loss of hand or foot by severance at or above the wrist or ankle;
- Total and permanent loss of hearing in one or both ears;
- Loss of thumb and index finger of the same hand by severance at or above the metacarpophalangeal joints;
- Quadriplegia, paraplegia, or hemiplegia;
- Third degree or worse burns covering 30 percent of the body or 30 percent of the face; and
- Coma or the inability to carry out two of the six activities of daily living due to traumatic brain injury.

TSGLI is not disability compensation and has no effect on entitlement for compensation and pension benefits provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs or disability benefits provided by the Department of

Defense, officials said. They said it is an insurance product similar to commercial dismemberment policies.

TSGLI provides money for a loss due to a specific traumatic event while disability compensation is intended to provide ongoing financial support to make up for the loss in income-earning potential due to service-connected injuries.

The Department of Defense developed this program in close coordination with the Department of Veteran's Affairs. The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness will closely monitor implementation with the services and make necessary adjustments if required, officials said.

Additional information on the traumatic injury protection benefit, as well as a listing on qualifying injuries, can be obtained by calling 1-800-237-1336 or going to www.aw2.army.mil/TSGLI for application and contact information.

Claims can be faxed to 1-866-275-0684 or mailed to Department of the U.S. Army Traumatic SGLI, 200 Stovall Street, Alexandria, VA 22332-0470.

Toy buying tips for the holidays

- Inspect toys for safe construction. Products given to young children should be made of durable plastic or wood with no sharp edges or points. The toys should be able to withstand impact. Avoid purchasing toys for young children with small parts, as they tend to put items in their mouths, increasing their risk of choking.
- Check children's toys regularly for broken parts. Throw broken toys out immediately if they cannot be safely repaired. Older kids often alter their toys and misuse them, making them unsafe. It is better to be vigilant, even with older children, so that serious eye injuries can be prevented.
- Read the instructions and the suggested age level on the packaging. Assess whether the item is appropriate for the child's ability and age. Age labeling is provided not just for developmental reasons, but for safety reasons as well.
- Look for the symbol ASTM F963. This indicates the product meets the national safety standards set by the American Society for Testing and Materials.
- Parents should make recommendations to family members and friends about gifts they feel are appropriate for their child.
- Remain aware of recalled products. Large toy retailers post regular notices of recalled toys usually at the front of their stores. Take recalled products back to the store where they were purchased for a full refund. For further information on toy and product recalls, visit the U.S. Product Safety Commission Web site, www.epsc.gov.
- Remove hazards in the car. As many families will be traveling by car this holiday season, make sure children are properly secured in baby carriers and child safety seats, and the seat and shoulder belts fit well. Children age 12 and younger should never ride in the front seat. And remember to store loose items in the trunk or secure them on the floor as any loose object can become a missile in a crash.

Understanding a fever

American Academy of Pediatrics

A fever is a body temperature that is higher than normal. A child's normal body temperature varies with age, general health, activity level, the time of day and how much clothing he/she is wearing.

Everyone's temperature tends to be lower early in the morning and higher between late afternoon and early evening. Temperature also will be slightly higher with strenuous exercise.

Most pediatricians consider any thermometer reading above 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) as a sign of a fever. This number may vary depending on the method used for taking the child's temperature. When calling the pediatrician, say which method was used.

If a child has a fever, it is probably a sign that his/her body is fighting an infection. When the child has an infection because of a virus or bacteria, his/her body may respond by increasing body temperature. It is important to remember that, except in the case of heat stroke, fever itself is not an illness -- only a symptom of an illness. Fever itself also is not a sign that the child needs an antibiotic.

Many conditions, such as

an ear infection, a common cold, the flu, a urinary tract infection or pneumonia can cause a child to develop a fever. In some cases, medication, injury, poison or an extreme level of activity may produce a fever. An environment that is too hot may result in heat stroke, a potentially dangerous body temperature. It is important to look for the cause of the fever.

Fevers are generally harmless and help children fight infection. They can be considered a good sign that the child's immune system is working and the body is trying to rid itself of the infection.

If the child has a fever, his/her heart and breathing rates naturally will speed up. This may be noticed before he/she feels warm. The child may appear flushed or perspire more than usual.

The child's body will require more fluids.

Some children feel fine when they have a fever. However, most will have symptoms of the illness that is causing the fever. The child may have an earache, a sore throat, a rash or a stomachache. These complaints provide important clues as to the cause of the child's fever.

KUSAHC offers 'Take Care of Yourself' classes

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic is offering "Take Care of Yourself" classes on the third Thursday of every month at 10 a.m.

The next class will be held tonight. This class teaches how to treat minor illnesses and injuries and gain knowledge on when to see a doctor.

After the class a Med Card will be given to class members which will allow them to receive over-the-counter medications from the pharmacy without an appointment.

To sign up, call KUSAHC, 410-278-1813, or report to the General Medicine Clinic on the day of the class and ask for Jane Blevins.

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